



MS ISSUE FEE  
PATENT  
3658-0103P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dirk WERNICKE et al. Group: 1651  
Application No.: 09/979,507 ✓ Examiner: Ralph J. Gitomer  
Filed: May 6, 2002 Conf.: 5925  
For: COLLAGENASE 3 AS PROGNOSTIC MARKER FOR RHEUMATOID  
ARTHRITIS

**LETTER REQUESTING INITIALED PTO 1449 FORM**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JAN 30 2004

Sir:

In reviewing the above-captioned application file upon allowance, the undersigned has noted that acknowledgement was not received for the PTO Form 1449 filed with the Information Disclosure Statement on April 30, 2003. Applicants acknowledge that the Wernicke reference was cited by the Examiner in the PTO 892 attached to Paper No. 9. However, the WO98/29560 reference has not yet been initialed.

Accordingly, a copy of each unacknowledged PTO Form 1449 is attached hereto. The Examiner is respectfully requested to return the initialed form to the undersigned as soon as possible.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

MARC S. WEINER, #32,181

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

MSW/CAM/jd



Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
3658-0103PAPPLICATION NO.  
09/979,507APPLICANT  
Dirk WERNICKE et al.FILING DATE  
May 6, 2002GROUP  
1651**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Office	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
								YES	NO
	WO	98/29560	A1	1998-07-09	PCT			Abs	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

(Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)

Dirk WERNICKE et al.; The Journal of Rheumatology, Vol. 23, Number 4, pp. 590-595, 1996.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

3658-0103P

MSW/sh